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United States Department of State

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Operations Center

WGRW01

SITUATION REPORT NO. 6

SITUATION AS OF 1630 EDT, 04/08/94


• (S) The Belgian government has decided to evacuate its citizens from Rwanda via the Kigali airport. The French have agreed to take control of the airport with 100-200 troops from bases in the Central African Republic. The Rwandan military command agreed to the operation, but does not know the timing. The French do not/not intend to notify the RPF and have urged that we not inform them. (Paris 9625; Brussels 4005)

• (S) The Belgian operation would be kept totally distinct from UNAMIR. The Belgian government is requesting U.S. airlift for 800-1000 troops and armored vehicles and logistical and possible medical support. (1515 EDT Brussels DATT/Dept. telcon)

• (S) The Government of Belgium asked for immediate consultations with U.S. military on evacuation procedures. The NSC has given approval to State and DoD to plan for a joint U.S.-Belgium-France operation to evacuate our respective nationals. (Brussels 4005)

• (C) The Belgian PM asked Boutros Ghali to strengthen the UN contingent. The Belgian government wants enhanced equipment and/or firepower, not an increase in Belgian blue helmets. The Belgians are willing to keep their UNAMIR troops in Rwanda after the planned evacuation, but cannot provide more troops. (Brussels 4005)

• (C) The UN SYG would like to strengthen UNAMIR with more troops. The Belgians want to bring in their evacuation force under Article 51 of the UN Charter; however, it has not been invited by the government (which would appear impossible, given the absence of political authority). (IO/USUN telcons)

  
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